

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 53.12

grade, quality, size, quantity, or condition of the livestock (including the compliance of livestock with applicable specifications), or to maintain the identity of livestock for which service is provided under the regulations.

ADMINISTRATION

§ 53.3 Authority.

The Director is charged with the administration of the regulations and the Act insofar as they relate to livestock.

SERVICE

§ 53.4 Kind of service.

Grading service under the regulations shall consist of the determination and certification and other identification, upon request by the applicant, of the class, grade, or other quality of livestock under applicable standards. Class, grade and other quality may be determined under said standards for livestock. Acceptance service under the regulations shall consist of the determination of the conformity of livestock to specifications approved by the Director or Chief and the certification and other identification of such livestock in accordance with specifications, upon request by the applicant.

[42 FR 53902, Oct. 4, 1977, as amended at 63 FR 72101, Dec. 31, 1998]

§ 53.5 Availability of service.

Service under these regulations may be made available with respect to livestock shipped or received in interstate commerce, and with respect to the livestock not so shipped or received if the Director or Chief determines that the furnishing of service for such livestock would facilitate the marketing, distribution, processing, or utilization of agricultural products through commercial channels. Also, such service may be made available under a cooperative agreement. Service under these regulations shall be provided without discrimination as to race, color, sex, creed, or national origin.

§ 53.8 How to obtain service.

(a) *Application.* Any person may apply to the Director or Chief for service under the regulations with respect to livestock in which the applicant is fi-

nancially interested. The application shall be made on a form approved by the Director.

(b) *Notice of eligibility for service.* The applicant for service will be notified whether his application is approved.

(c) *Request by applicant for service—(1) Noncommitment.* Upon notification of the approval on an application for service, the applicant may, from time to time as desired, make oral or written requests for service under the regulations with respect to specific livestock for which the service is to be furnished under such application. Such requests shall be made at a market news office either directly or through any employee of the Agricultural Marketing Service who may be designated for such purposes.

§ 53.9 Order of furnishing service.

Service under the regulations shall be furnished to applicants in the order in which requests therefor are received, insofar as consistent with good management, efficiency and economy. Precedence will be given, when necessary, to requests made by any government agency or any regular user of the service.

§ 53.10 When request for service deemed made.

A request for service under the regulations shall be deemed to be made when received by a market news office. Records showing the date and time of the request shall be made and kept in such office.

§ 53.11 Withdrawal of application or request for service.

An application or a request for service under the regulations may be withdrawn by the applicant at any time before the application is approved or prior to performance of service, upon payment, in accordance with §§ 53.18 and 53.19, of any expenses already incurred by the Agricultural Marketing Service in connection therewith.

§ 53.12 Authority of agent.

Proof of the authority of any person making an application or a request for service under the regulations on behalf of any other person may be required at the discretion of the Director or Chief